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1. The entire area around Sverdlovsk, including the towns of Alapaevsk, Turinsk, Berezovka (unlocated), and Nizhni Tagil, is a Russian penal and exile district and also the present home of a large number of German PWs. In the forest area, German, Italian, and Polish PWs and Russian prisoners are engaged in cutting down the trees and laying new railways.

2. Alapaevsk (57°51'N, 61°43'E) is situated on a wide gauge railway leading to Sverdlovsk. The railway has many side-tracks leading to different factories. American engines of modern construction are in use. A narrow gauge railway, connecting the settlements in the vicinity and linking up with the ordinary railways, is being built in the forest. On the main lines, modern engines are used for freight and passenger traffic, while older models are at work in the various factory grounds. Source observed several German engines, built in 1933 by the firm of Orenstein and Koppel, Berlin. The railways are of major importance in this area, as the rivers are silted up and not navigable. On both the broad and narrow gauge railways, the sub-structure consists of road metal although Ural mountaintone is available in the district.

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At Alapaevsk there are two associated works of the metal industry, a metal works and a machine tool factory. Within the metal works is a blast furnace known as Uralmash. **Comment:** This is probably one of the previously unlocated branches of the Ural Machine Construction Factory, the main part of which is in Sverdlovsk. During the war, all metal refuse and scrap was placed in the vicinity of the metal works to save time; gangs of prisoners are now engaged in clearing this. The metal works consists of a foundry with three Martin open hearth furnaces, a Bessemer bulb, and steel cranes. There is a large rolling mill for sheet iron, the products of which are used for the manufacture of spoons, forks, door handles, roofing steel, etc.; a factory where the rollers for the manufacture of steel plates are produced; and a grinding works. There are large metal presses for pressing all metal refuse into bales for easier transportation to the blast furnaces. All possible secondary products are produced in a separate part of the factory.

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4. Attached to the metal works is a brick works. The clay is taken to the press by means of horse transport and from there to the fire rooms by rail cars. The rail cars must be run over several turn-tables and switches, and the vehicles are continually being derailed because of the condition of these

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installations. The actual brick kiln is erected of the bricks to be baked, covered with iron sheets and heated with wood from the forest. Work is done on two shifts of eight hours each and at least 50% of the bricks have to be rejected because of bad workmanship.

5. At the quarry, only one eight-hour shift per day is worked. This is situated on the Neya at a point where the river, totally choked with sand, enlarges like a lake. The holes in the parts of the rock to be blown are drilled with a bore one meter in length which must be turned continuously by one man, while another strikes it with a hammer. These holes must be one meter deep and are supposed to be completed in eight hours. After ten holes have been completed, blasting is carried out. The removed stones, thrown partly on the frozen river and partly on the beach, must be carried over a plank into the lime kiln at a height of about five meters by means of litters, handled by two men. The total weight of these litters was about 4 cwt. If the lime kiln is not filled by the first blasting, the drilling continues. When filled, it is heated with wood for seven days. Only four or five cubic meters of lime result. After extraction, the lime kiln must be reconstructed. () states during the winter of 1946-47 only 20 cwt. could be drilled in eight hours, so that it took five days to drill one hole. The temperature is often 35 to 40 degrees below zero Centigrade, and at the same time strong icy winds blow over the lake).

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6. The total water supply for the town (including drinking water) is pumped from the river. Water is sold at 4 rubles per bucket. It is not purified, is foul tasting, and often causes epidemics of diarrhoea and typhoid. Alapaevsk is stated by the Russians to have a population of about two million inhabitants. It is built almost entirely of wood, although some public buildings, such as churches, hospitals, or the party buildings, are constructed of brick. Most of the exiled families live in barrack settlements. These settlements are overshadowed by wooden towers erected around them. There is a large black market where, for instance, stolen potatoes can be purchased for 40 rubles a kilo. Buttons, needles, and safety pins are valuable assets. A bakery has been set up in the church. In the large granaries, grain is stored to a height of 3 or 4 meters, so high that it cannot be shifted regularly, and it sprouts and rots because of the great heat and humidity.

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